Edinburgh 9/11/49

My dear Friend
Anne Warren Weston

The box proving rather small I fear the things will suffer from crushing please say how they turn out

Again have I the pleasure of sending off a box of Contributions, which though smaller than usual, will I trust still be found of some service to the cause which has prompted their preparation — I fear thou wilt think many of the things not worth packing & sending so far but we have just to send what we get for the purpose — and if even a child be taught to think aright on the subject — from the smallest article sent it will not be in vain. Thou art perhaps aware of the painfully trying circumstances by which many of our best friends have this year been utterly prevented from doing any thing at all to help us this year. — Sarah & Blanche Hilditch have been involved in difficulties by the mismanagement of their affairs by an Uncle, who was left their Guardian & Trustee — in whom they had placed full confidence — ~~but~~ but which, much to the aggravation of their pecuniary losses — has turned out not to have acted towards them aright

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and they are greatly tried in being unable to continue their labours & contributions to such objects as they so much approve and have formerly delighted to aid. — Then another reason for some other names being absent this year is the general visitation of sickness by which so many have been brought into mourning — One of our Contributors has been called from this state of being since sending us her donation — Mary Wiffen — she died very suddenly of Appoplexy — The autographs are mostly of her collecting — at least all those marked on the corner by a "W" or "M W" — Then we are in doubt yet about the Glasgow Box, for our friends who took the charge of it are very differently circumstanced from what they have ever been at this time of the year before — Mary Welsh has been plunged into the depths of affliction — by the death of relatives, and other trials more bitter still — Eliza Anderson has had a baby about 3 weeks ago, her sister Catharine Anderson has had to devote her time anxiously watching over & nursing her — so that the last time we enquired about the progress of the Box were told that it was not likely to be ready to go this month — But as the Steamers now go more frequently I trust they will be able to get it sent off so as to reach in time — Knowing all this would have made us desirous of making our box more valuable, but our dear Eliza is forced to leave us in a few days to spend the winter with her sisters in Dublin — So that we are urged to get it sent off to be at liberty to attend to home affairs — There is a very little box enclosed which we shall be obliged by thy sending to Philadelphia — for the Bazaar

all the rest intended for it were sent from Newcastle — but we undertook to get these sent and would like to be able to say that they were duly forwarded, — Eliza will probably write by post but I would just add here that the smallest particulars respecting the results will be acceptable — and if some of the previous printed matter relative could be incorporated with the Gazette it would make the latter more complete and interesting for circulating among our contributors, and we shall be glad of as large a parcel of these as can be spared for Edinburgh put up in a parcel directed for us — to whosever care it may be enclosed as we find these very serviceable — With kindest remembrances to all friends in which Eliza unites

I am thy affectionate friend Jane Wigham

P.S. I was just forgetting to mention that we have
had the pleasure of getting a peep at some of those
whose names have been very familiar to us — Eliz
Lee Follen & her Sister Susan Cabot paid us a delight
ful visit & kindly delayed their departure from Ed
burgh half a day that they might be present at a me
ing of our Society which we had hastily convened for
the purpose — & which proved a great treat to all pre
sent. — Then we had the pleasure of seeing Eliza
Eddy & her husband — and a very nice Gentleman
from your neighbourhood and I believe a relation
of thine Captain Forbes — who was on board of t
Europa at the time of the Awful Collision with
the "Charles Bartlet" in which scene he took
such deep & active & perilous interest —
Before another year elapse we trust to have
the pleasure if spared to see dear Maria
W. Chapman —. but hope if she do come
here she will allow more time than the other
did —

We have a little money due for "North Stars"
& Liberators which we intend to remit by
or through William & Robert Smeal. If
thou hast an opportunity please inform the
Editors of these papers that they are not forgotte

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